

Powers Granted Divorce, Alimony Ruled for Wife

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Jan. 16 (AP).—Francis Gary Powers, former U-2 pilot who served a prison term in Russia, was granted a divorce today.

A Superior Court jury granted Mrs. Barbara Powers a lump-sum payment of \$5,000, plus \$500 in attorneys' fees. The jury deliberated about half an hour.

Mr. Powers charged his wife with habitual intoxication and cruelty.

Mrs. Powers filed a counter-suit and told the jury yesterday that her husband was "not the same" since his return from a Russian prison.

Bitterness Cited

"Gary has changed a great deal . . . he's not the same," the 28-year-old Mrs. Powers said, adding, "he took all his bitterness out on me."

Mr. Powers, 33, testified yesterday in his contested divorce suit that "the only person who ever mistreated me while I was in prison in Russia was my wife Barbara."

"I went for 45 days without a letter. It was just too much," said Mr. Powers, who spent nearly two years in a Russian prison after being downed on

a reconnaissance mission over the Soviet Union in May, 1960.

A jury of 12 married men heard the divorce suit, which Mr. Powers filed last August. He charged that Barbara, whom he married in 1955, was guilty of habitual intoxication and that she cursed and abused him without cause.

Valves Said Lost

Mrs. Powers in her counter suit, asked an unspecified amount of alimony. She charged that since his return to this country, Mr. Powers "had lost his whole sense of values and duties as an American citizen toward his wife, his country and toward his fellow man and is obsessed with material things in life, especially money."

She said she is ill and unable to work and that her husband told her several times after his release from prison that he could not love and live with a sick woman.

"I suffered just as much as Gary did when he was in prison," she said.

Mr. Powers testified he is now employed as a test pilot in California, and earns about \$310 a week.